

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7001

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.OM 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IT, YO

SUBJECT: ITALIAN-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS

1. DURING CALL AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SEPTEMBER 16, EMBOFF ASKED YUGOSLAV DESK OFFICER FOR ITALIAN REACTION TO PORTIONS OF RECENT SPEECHES BY TITO, DOLANC AND BIJEDIC WHICH PERTAINED TO ITALIAN-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. SOURCE HAD NOT YET SEEN BIJEDIC SPEECH, BUT NOTED THAT ITALIANS HAD EXAMINED CLOSELY REMARKS OF TITO AND DOLANC.

2. MFA OFFICIAL EXPRESSED DISAPPINTMENT THAT BOTH TITO AND DOLANC CHOSE TO ADDRESS ITALIAN-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS IN A POLEMICAL MANNER WHICH DOES NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPROVE-
MENT OF BILATERAL TIES. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, ITALIANS FOUND PARTICULARLY ANNOYING REFERENCES TO GROWING STRENGTH OF ITALIAN FASCISM WHICH GIVES IMPRESSION THAT YUGOSLAVS SEEKING TO UTILIZE ISOLATED INSTANCES OF TERROISM, COUPLED WITH CURRENT ITALIAN ECONOMIC/POLICICAL PROBLEMS, TO COMPLICATE BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. SOURCE STATED THAT CURRENT ITALIAN THINKING IS TO IGNORE LATEST YUGOSLAV POLEMICS RATHER THAN GIVE THEM MEASURE OF RESPECTABILITY BY REPLYING TO THEM. ACCORDINGLY, ITALIANS
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PRESENTLY HAVE NO PLANS TO RAISE TENOR OF SPEECHES WITH

YUGOSLAVS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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